

**From:** [Gockel, Catherine](#)  
**To:** ["Amelia Apfel"](#)  
**Subject:** RE: PBDE report on Encyclopedia of Puget Sound website  
**Date:** Thursday, April 03, 2014 11:16:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [PBDE Recommendations.pdf](#)

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Hi Amelia,

Would you please add one more report to the PBDE webpage at <http://www.eopugetsound.org/articles/report-potential-effects-pbdes-puget-sound-and-southern-resident-killer-whales>? It's the report from our PBDE monitoring workgroup.

The current text (towards the bottom of the page) says:

Discussions regarding a Puget Sound-wide monitoring program for PBDEs will continue via the [Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program](#).

With leadership from EPA and NMFS, the Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program will convene a sub-workgroup on PBDEs during Fall 2013.

Please change that to:

“Discussions regarding a Puget Sound-wide monitoring program for PBDEs continued via the [Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program](#). With leadership from EPA and NMFS, the Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program convened a sub-workgroup on PBDEs during Fall 2013. See the report on PBDE Monitoring Recommendations.”

Attached is the report on PBDE monitoring recommendations. Title the report: “PBDE Monitoring Recommendations”

Thank you! Let me know if you have questions.

Catherine

**From:** Amelia Apfel (b) (6)

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 30, 2013 11:20 AM

**To:** Gockel, Catherine

**Subject:** Re: PBDE report on Encyclopedia of Puget Sound website

Catherine, here is an image of the article on the website. It is currently NOT published. As you can see, the links to the reports appear in the right sidebar.

best,  
Amelia

On Tue, Jul 30, 2013 at 10:56 AM, Amelia Apfel (b) (6) wrote:

Also, is there a link to these documents online? We usually include both a link to the online version and the full PDF report as an uploaded document.

On Mon, Jul 29, 2013 at 1:06 PM, Amelia Apfel (b) (6) wrote:

I think it's possible, but I'll have to check with our web architect. The site is password protected, so I suspect we'd need to give you a temporary login.

On Mon, Jul 29, 2013 at 8:37 AM, Gockel, Catherine <[Gockel.Catherine@epa.gov](mailto:Gockel.Catherine@epa.gov)> wrote:

Thanks so much. Could I please see the page before it goes live?

**From:** Amelia Apfel (b) (6)

**Sent:** Thursday, July 25, 2013 9:38 AM

**To:** Gockel, Catherine

**Subject:** Re: PBDE report on Encyclopedia of Puget Sound website  
Catherine,

Thanks for sending these! The text you propose looks great to me, and I can certainly link to the PSEMP page. I did also see your email about using the updated report, and I'll be sure to do that. Were there any other concerns you had?

best,  
Amelia

On Wed, Jul 24, 2013 at 2:36 PM, Gockel, Catherine <[Gockel.Catherine@epa.gov](mailto:Gockel.Catherine@epa.gov)> wrote:

Hi Amelia,

Attached are the materials to post. Sorry for the delay. Maybe you could take a look, and then we could talk about the best way to convey the information?

We will be continuing our discussion about developing a PBDE/flame retardant monitoring scheme for Puget Sound via the a sub-workgroup of PSEMP members. Maybe we should link to the PSEMP page for more info? (<https://sites.google.com/a/psemp.org/psemp/home>).

The text on the page could be:

*The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 10 and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Northwest Region are concerned about the potential effects of polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs) on Puget Sound and Southern Resident killer whales. In coordination with NMFS, EPA Region 10's Office of Water and Watersheds hosted a series of technical workgroups during spring 2013 on the following topics:*

- *PBDE removal efficiency in wastewater treatment plants*
- *PBDE modeling in Puget Sound (fate, transport, and bioaccumulation)*
- *The need to establish a PBDE toxicological threshold for Southern Resident killer whales*
- *No Observed Effect Concentration (NOEC) levels of mixtures of persistent organic pollutants (including PCB and PBDE congeners)*

*EPA Region 10 hosted a policy forum on PBDEs and Southern Resident killer whales on June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013. The policy forum was the culmination of technical workgroups and provided an opportunity for senior level staff at the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology), NMFS, the Puget Sound Partnership, and EPA to learn about and discuss the issues surrounding PBDEs in Puget Sound, especially as they relate to killer whales. An impressive group of people participated in the workgroups - from national PBDE experts to local wastewater treatment plant operators (King County and LOTT Clean Water Alliance) to key staff from Ecology, NMFS, EPA, as well as Canadian researchers.*

Workgroup and policy forum participants acknowledge the need for additional

monitoring of PBDEs and other flame retardants/persistent bioaccumulative toxics in Puget Sound.

Discussions regarding a Puget Sound-wide monitoring program for PBDEs will continue via the Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program (<https://sites.google.com/a/psemp.org/psemp/home>).

With leadership from EPA and NMFS, the Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program will convene a sub-workgroup on PBDEs during Fall 2013.

You can list me as the staff contact. My info is below:

Catherine Gockel MS, MPA

Office of Water & Watersheds

EPA Region 10

[206-553-0325](tel:206-553-0325)

Thanks so much! Let's chat before this goes live.

-Catherine

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**From:** Amelia Apfel (b) (6)

**Sent:** Monday, July 15, 2013 11:02 AM

**To:** Gockel, Catherine

**Subject:** PBDE report on Encyclopedia of Puget Sound website

Hi Catherine,

I'm responsible for uploading many of the reports we feature on the Encyclopedia of Puget Sound site, and Jeff Rice forwarded your information to me in relation to some materials from the EPA, including a PBDE report. If you send me the materials you want on the site, I can work on including them. If you want to talk more, let me know a good time to connect on the phone.

best,

Amelia

(b) (6)